

Appl. No. 10/678,206
Docket No. 9049
Amdt. dated March 27, 2008
Reply to Office Action mailed on November 20, 2007
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (New) A hair treatment applicator for applying a hair treatment to hair, said hair treatment applicator comprising:

- a handle; and

- a head connected to said handle, said head comprising:

- a first retaining structure comprising a first base, a first plurality of tines extending from said first base, and a first baffle extending from said first base, which together form a first retaining volume configured to hold said hair treatment, receive a first strand of hair, and apply said hair treatment to said first strand of hair;

- a second retaining structure comprising a second base, a second plurality of tines extending from said second base, and a second baffle extending from said second base, which together form a second retaining volume configured to hold said hair treatment, receive a second strand of hair, and apply said hair treatment to said second strand of hair;

- a passage extending between said first and second baffles, wherein said passage is substantially free of said hair treatment and is configured to receive

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a third strand of hair without exposing said third strand of hair to hair treatment contained in said first and second retaining structures.

Claim 18 (New) A hair treatment applicator according to claim 17, wherein said first plurality of tines extends substantially perpendicularly from said first base.

Claim 19 (New) A hair treatment applicator according to claim 18, wherein said second plurality of tines extends substantially perpendicularly from said second base.

Claim 20 (New) A hair treatment applicator according to claim 17, wherein said handle is integrally molded with said retaining structures.

Claim 21 (New) A hair treatment applicator according to claim 20 wherein said hair treatment applicator is injection molded as a single piece.

Claim 22 (New) A hair treatment applicator according to claim 21, wherein said hair treatment applicator is made from a moldable material selected from the group consisting of polyethylene and polypropylene.

Claim 23 (New) A hair treatment applicator according to claim 17, wherein at least one of said first and second plurality of tines is frusto-conical in shape.

Claim 24 (New) A hair treatment applicator according to claim 23, wherein each of said first and second plurality of tines that is frusto-conical in shape has a proximal end having a diameter from about 0.125 inches (about 0.318 cm) to about 0.3125 inches (about 0.794 cm) and a distal end having a diameter from about 0.0625 inches (about 0.159 cm) to about 0.375 inches (about 0.953 cm).

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Claim 25 (New) A hair treatment applicator according to claim 17, wherein each of said first and second plurality of tines has a height from about 0.25 inches (about 0.64 cm) to about 1.0 inches (about 2.54 cm).

Claim 26 (New) A hair treatment applicator according to claim 17, wherein said passage has a width of at least about 0.25 inches (about 0.64 cm).

Claim 27 (New) A combination hair treatment and hair treatment applicator for applying said hair treatment to hair comprising:

a hair treatment applicator comprising:

a handle; and

a head connected to said handle, said head comprising:

a first retaining structure comprising a first base, a first plurality of tines extending from said first base, and a first baffle extending from said first base, which together form a first retaining volume configured to hold said hair treatment, receive a first strand of hair, and apply said hair treatment to said first strand of hair;

a second retaining structure comprising a second base, a second plurality of tines extending from said second base, and a second baffle extending from said second base, which together form a second retaining volume configured to hold said hair treatment, receive a second strand of hair, and apply said hair treatment to said second strand of hair;

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a passage extending between said first and second baffle, wherein said passage is substantially free of said hair treatment and is configured to receive a third strand of hair without exposing said third strand of hair to hair treatment contained in said first and second retaining structures; and

a hair treatment contained in the first and second retaining structures of the hair treatment applicator.